

THE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (Meeting 78 - 28.02.2005)

Held in the Library, at the National Tramway Museum, Crich, Matlock, Derbyshire, on Monday 28th February 2005, at 11.00 am.

Issue: 1

Present: Messrs A.W.Bond (Chairman) and I. M. Dougill, Dr. A. Minion, Messrs G. Wilton and M.C.Wright.

Apologies for absence: A. Smith,

78.1 Membership of the Committee

The members noted with regret, the resignation of Dr. Tebb both from the Board of Management and from the posts he held within the Museum. It was agreed that Mr Dougill would replace him as Secretary of the Committee.

78.2 Minutes of Meeting 77 (17.01.05)

These were agreed as a true record.

78.3 Stone Workshop:

The Board had agreed that an application be progressed and it was agreed to prepare a draft application to the HLF for the appointment of consultants.

78.4 Access for the visually impaired

It was noted that Mr Pennyfather had agreed to work with Dr Minion to progress this matter. Dr Minion would update his paper which would then be circulated to the Board.

Dr Minion had considered the points made at the previous meeting and offered the following observations:

Railings at the rear of the Print Shop:

Dr Minion would experiment by painting the tops of the railings in gold.

Kerb Edging:

No action at present.

Blister paving:

Dr Minion proposed installing this at the top of the steps to the children's play area. This bottom of the steps would not be altered.

Street furniture:

Dr Minion would experiment with gold bands on poles and litter bins, trying to make them look as authentic as possible.

Barnett's Sweet Shop:

It was agreed that a brick plinth should be built to match the pedestrian ramp down from the staff car park. It would have railings installed in the medium term.

Red Lion:

It was agreed to recommend to Miss Isaacs that the number of tables and chairs outside be increased.

Rita's Tea Rooms

It was agreed that the small wall at the base of the ramp was a tripping hazard, but it was agreed that it was low priority.

Former Ice Cream Hut (Oil Store):

It was agreed to cut back the foliage and relocate the boot scraper if possible. The protruding knuckle was to be removed if it was not covering up any services etc.

Bowes-Lyon Bridge:

The protruding rails to be removed from the railings. Dr Minion would experiment with **MCW** paint on the knuckles.

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Signage:

Dr Minion recommended that the 'Cross Here' sign. Whilst this was agreed, he was cautioned against lowering it too much and was asked to check if there was a minimum height prescribed for signs of this nature.

It was agreed that a 'blue on white' foam board sign could be installed at the Entrance, warning visitors of possible uneven surfaces.

Exhibition Hall:

It was thought that the perceived difficulty of the glass in showcases/shop windows could be overcome by the use of stick on lettering in the style of the semi-circular 'Fry's Chocolate' signs which used to be affixed to shop windows.

It was agreed that Dr Minion could install frosted glass in the exit doors, under the supervision of Mr Daft. The spot light was to remain at the moment.

The height of the 'WAY OUT' sign was to be checked and if necessary, lowered using the 'cherry picker'.

'Clip on' foam boards could be used to describe exhibits, except in the case of the trams on 'stands'. Dr Minion was to experiment with a few trams in the Exhibition Hall only.

Dr Minion suggested a mural to brighten up the 'tunnel' to the children's play area. It was agreed that he could try to locate a school willing to paint one for installation.

Workshop Gallery:

The difference in light levels compared to the workshop was noted. Many of the installed bulbs had failed. Mr Wright agreed to ask Messrs Phoenix and Smith to replace the bulbs.

Wakebridge Toilet:

Dr Minion was to look for a suitable notice to draw attention to the location of the facility.

All these items were by way of an experiment which could be reversed if necessary.

78.5 New pathways at Glory Mine:

It was noted that these would take the remainder of the season to get the grass to grow. There was also a need to fence off our land and direct walkers up the public footpath. Mr Wright indicated that he might need about £500 for the balance of the work. This was available in the Site (General) budget.

78.6 Woodland Walk:

It was agreed that the position of the memorial tree to be planted in memory of Philip Smith should be agreed with Messrs Musgrove and Wilton.

78.7 New Entrance Building:

The outline specification had been received from Mr Smith and detailed plans were awaited. If Gift Aid continued we would need additional till areas. Maybe an external awning with 'drive past' positions could be suitable. Our computer tills could establish if visitors had visited on prior occasions.

78.8 Summer Budget:

An item would be needed for railings. Also an amount for paths on the Woodland Walk, which might be available from 'Hub' money. A small amount would be needed for contingencies.

The new Entrance Building would be a separate item for the winter budget.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 12.30 pm.